

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 15, 32 and 54 appeared to be generic. The Examiner further requested that Applicants elect between two species disclosed in the application: Species I (Figures 6-8) and Species II (Figures 9-11).

As an initial matter, it is believed that claim 15 is not generic as indicated by the Examiner. Rather, claim 15 is directed to the illustrative embodiment shown in Figures 6-8.

Moreover, it appears that, in addition to claims 1, 32 and 54 identified by the Examiner as being generic, the following claims are also generic: 2, 3, 9, 12-14, 40, 41, 45-53 and 57.

Claims readable on the Species I invention are as follows: 4-8, 10-11, 15-31, 33, 42-43, 55-56 and 58.

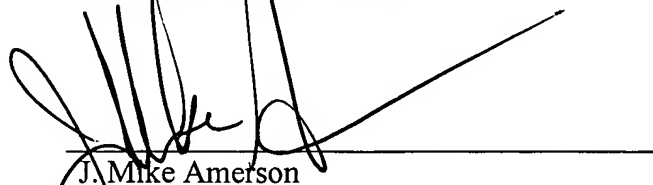
Claims readable on the Species II invention are as follows: 34-39 and 59.

In addition to the above-identified generic claims, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims readable on the Species II invention. Thus, Applicants believe that claims 1-3, 9, 12-14, 32, 34-39, 40-41, 45-54, 57 and 59 should be prosecuted in the present application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 5, 2005

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